GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3141
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2016
Dam Along Border by China
Patole Shri Nanabhau Falgunrao

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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(a) the details of India's concerns regarding supply of water in river Brahmaputra in the wake of implementation of hydro-power projects by China on this river along the border in Tibet;

(b) whether India has raised this issue with China and if so, the details of deliberations held and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to keep a check on such infrastructural activities along the border by China?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) to (c) Various issues relating to trans-border rivers are discussed with China under the ambit of India-China Expert Level Mechanism which was established in 2006. 9th Meeting of the ELM was held in Beijing in May 2015. Government of India, under the Memorandum of Understanding on Strengthening Cooperation on Trans-border Rivers, signed in October 2013, obtains hydrological data from China on river Brahmaputra.

As a lower riparian State with considerable established user rights to the waters of the River, India has conveyed its views and concerns to the Chinese authorities, including at the highest levels of the Government of the People's Republic of China. India has urged China to ensure that the interests of downstream States are not harmed by any activities in upstream areas. During the visit of Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi to China in May 2015, this matter was discussed. The two sides agreed to further strengthen cooperation on the provision of flood-season hydrological data and emergency management, and exchange views on other issues of mutual interest through the Expert-Level Mechanism.